Receipt date: 03/12/2009 10699175 - GAU: 3738

OK TO ENTER: /S.G./

03/17/2009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)	Before the Examiner
Bianchi et al.)	Suzette J. Gherbi
)	
Application of Serial No. 10/699,175)	Group Art Unit 3738
)	
Filed October 31, 2003)	Ref. No. MSDI-434
)	
OPEN INTERVERTEBRAL SPACER)	March 12 2009

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated January 15, 2009, please consider the following remarks. Additionally, please provide any extensions of time necessary and charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 132546, but not to include payment of issue fees.

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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 362-425 were pending in the subject application prior to the filing of this response. In view of the following remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.